

Restoration Ecology Intern

Portions of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area have been impacted by past or present human activities resulting in invasion of exotic plant species, disruption of hydrology, and disruption of soil communities. These impacts reduce the quality of affected habitats, affect visitor experiences in the park, and generally degrade the quality of park resources. The park has instituted a program of ecological restoration within the Recreation Area to reduce these impacts and to improve habitat quality. Projects include exotic plant control, native plant propagation, and site-specific re-vegetation and restoration projects. Work sometimes involves threatened or endangered species. The restoration ecology intern will assist in all aspects of this program including leading volunteer groups in the field, working at the native plant nursery, performing weed removal, and native plant propagation and planting. In addition, there may be opportunities to participate in planning, and educational programs depending on time and particular interest of the intern.

Major Duties:

- Assisting in the preparation and execution of volunteer restoration days
- Assisting in exotic species removal projects
- Preparation, maintenance, and monitoring of restoration projects
- Assisting in nursery work
- Collection of native plant stock
- May have opportunity for development of individual project dependent on time and particular interest of the intern.

Requirements:

- Must be a US citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
- College student or recent graduate with a background in restoration ecology, biology, botany or ecology or related field.
- Interest in restoration ecology and willingness to perform field work is required.
- Ability to identify plants of the Santa Monica Mountains is helpful.
- Familiarity with basic plant propagation, tool use and greenhouse techniques are helpful.
- Ability to work well both independently and as part of a team, be detail-oriented and organized.
- Good oral and written communication skills and ability to follow oral and written directions.
- Valid driver's license is required.
- Must have own transportation to and from worksite. Government vehicles are available for intern use within the scope of their internship.
- Fingerprint or background check may be required.

Work Site and Conditions

- Position involves substantial amounts of strenuous work in the field, including digging, carrying, and watering. Interns must be in good physical condition.
- Commitment of a minimum of 12 weeks, full time. Arrangements for part-time work for a longer period of time may be made. Interns may work both weekdays and weekends. Specific schedule will be determined based upon availability and project needs.
- A stipend of \$20 per day, usually paid monthly or as arranged by the supervisor, may be available.
- No park housing is available at this time but may become available in the future.

To apply send letter of application with availability, resume, three references and unofficial transcript by e-mail to Sheila_braden@nps.gov
For information contact: sheila_braden@nps.gov

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